

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
MAIL STOP AF**

**PATENT APPLICATION**

Attorney Docket: 2909 US (203-3757 PCT US)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): ZERGIEBEL, Earl M.                      Examiner:    PHILOGENE, Pedro  
Serial No.:    10/560,879                                      Art Unit:       3733  
Filed:           May 10, 2006                                  Dated:           May 18, 2009  
For:               **MULTIPLE MEMBER INTERCONNECT FOR SURGICAL  
INSTRUMENT AND ABSORBABLE SCREW FASTENER**

Mail Stop: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Confirmation No.: 2518

**RESPONSE**

Sir/Madam:

In response to the Final Office Action that was mailed March 17, 2009, please consider the following:

**A Listing of Claims** that begins on page 2 of this paper.


**Remarks/Arguments** that begin on page 8 of this paper.

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**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted on the date below with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, via electronic submission.

Dated: May 18, 2009

  
Nicole Risponne